

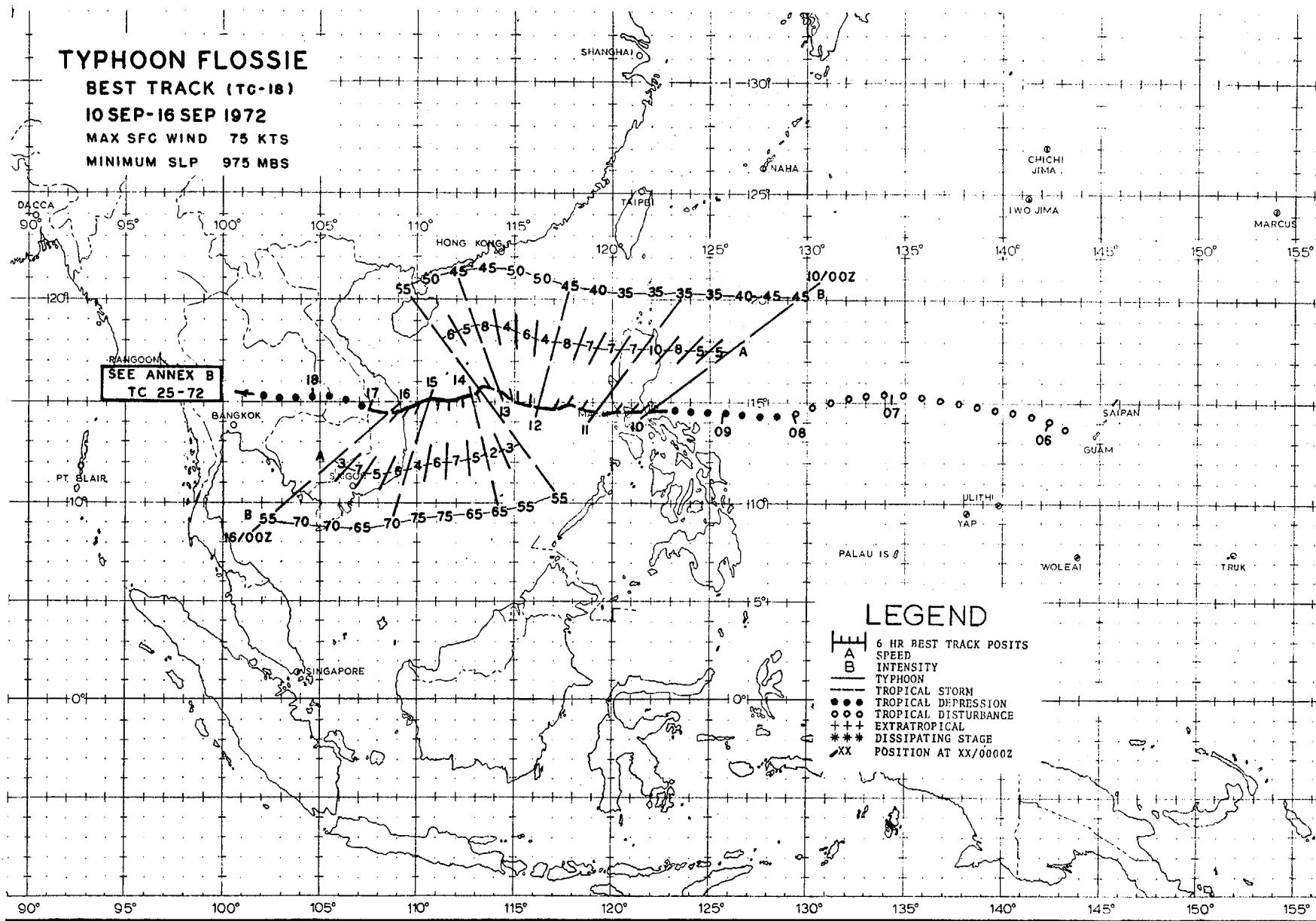
TYPHOON FLOSSIE

BEST TRACK (TC-18)

10 SEP-16 SEP 1972

MAX SFC WIND 75 KTS

MINIMUM SLP 975 MBS



FLOSSIE

On 6 September, as Elsie was crossing Thailand, a weak circulation was noted on satellite pictures in the southern Marianas. The ill-defined system crossed the Philippine Sea and developed into Tropical Storm Flossie prior to landfall in the Lamon Bay region of Luzon.

A trough extending south-southwestward from the Kuril Islands weakened the subtropical ridge over southern China. The resulting weak steering flow caused Flossie to move slowly westward across the South China Sea during 11-14 September (Figure 4-21). Reaching minimal typhoon strength south of the Paracel Islands, Flossie shifted to a more southerly track. She moved ashore between Qui Nhon and Quang Ngai, South Vietnam, in the early morning of 16 September.

After weakening to a tropical depression, Flossie closely paralleled Elsie's track across Thailand, causing heavy rains on 18-19 September. Three provinces north of Bangkok were under floodwaters of up to 2-1/2 feet. Flossie, like Elsie, retained her identity across the Indo-China peninsula and regenerated to typhoon force in the Bay of Bengal (see Annex A). As Tropical Cyclone 25-72, she became the second tropical cyclone to achieve typhoon intensity in the Bay of Bengal during September. Since 1884⁴, there had never been more than one tropical cyclone reaching severe storm force (>47 kt) in the Bay of Bengal during September.

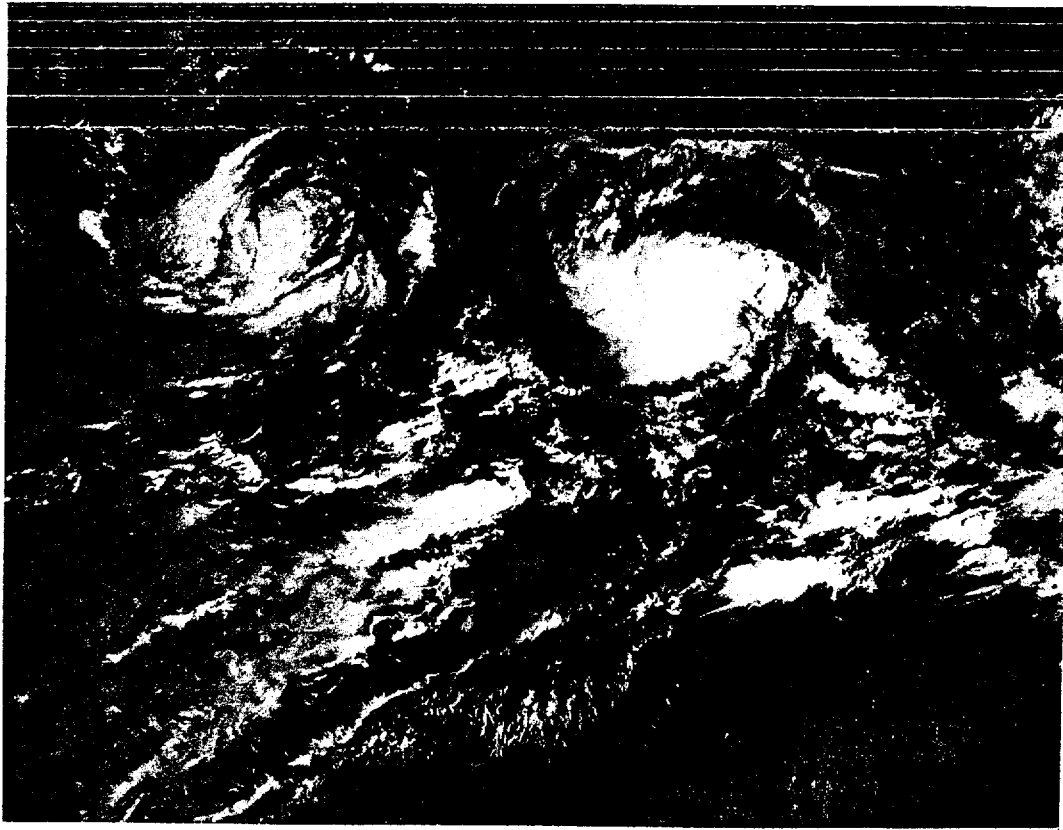


FIGURE 4-21. Tropical Storm Flossie (left) in the South China Sea 300 nm east of Danang, Vietnam. A second tropical storm, Grace, is centered just east of Luzon, 13 September 1972, 0002 GMT. (DAPP data)

⁴Tracks of storms and depressions in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea 1877-1960, India Meteorological Department, 1964.